真情密码系列

日 IN THE EMBRACE OF LOVE 主編 方华文



我对佛许愿:愿母亲一生幸福。佛说:一生不行,只能四天。我说:春天、夏天、秋天、冬天。佛愣了,说:两天。我笑,说:黑天、白天。佛惊,说:一天。我笑:生命中的每一天。

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【英汉对照】

亲情卷



ARGAINE B R H H

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## 前 言

曾听过这么一个关于感恩的故事:

一个生活贫困的男孩为了积攒学费,挨家挨户地推销商品。他的。 推销进行得很不顺利,傍晚时他疲惫万分,饥饿难耐,绝望得想放弃 一切。

走投无路的他敲开一扇门,希望主人能给他一杯水。开门的是一位 美丽的年轻女子,她笑着递给他一杯浓浓的热牛奶。男孩受宠若惊地把 它喝了下去,从此对人生重新鼓起了勇气。许多年后,他成了一位著名 的外科大夫。

一天,一位病情严重的妇女被转到这位著名的外科大夫所在的医院。大夫顺利地为妇女做完手术,救了她的命。无意中,大夫发现那位妇女正是多年前在他饥寒交迫时给他那杯热牛奶的年轻女子!他决定悄悄地为她做点什么。

一直为昂贵的手术费发愁的妇女硬着头皮办理出院手续时,在手术费用单上看到的是这样七个字:

手术费:一杯牛奶。

那位昔日的美丽的年轻女子没有看懂那几个字,她早已不记得那个男孩和那杯热牛奶。然而,这又有什么关系呢?

这故事虽然简短,却耐人寻味。在现实生活中,人们习惯了索取,习惯了抱怨,习惯了攫取即时的利益,却忘记了感恩回报,忘记了珍惜我们已经拥有的一切。

本套丛书是一套教会你感恩的双语温情读物,共4个分册,分别以爱情、 友情、亲情、恩师情谊为基调。丛书收录的200余篇纯正地道的英文心灵小品文,篇篇精彩;所附译文语言优美,精准传神。读者可以在赏析美文、陶冶情 操的同时,于潜移默化中提升自己的英语阅读与翻译水平。4个分册,多样情怀。幸福的、浪漫的、甜蜜的、叹惋的、朴实的、隽永的……所有你不期而遇的情愫,在这里都可以找到共鸣。

《蒙娜丽莎的微笑》(爱人卷)讲述爱情故事中的相遇相知、相守相依抑或相思别离,历经所有的甜蜜与悲凄,尽显爱情的瑰丽华美,隽永情深。《阳光的味道》(朋友卷)好像阳光下盛开的向日葵,让你想起臭味相投、肝胆相照的老友,想起你们一起走过的那些美好的青春岁月。《晶莹父母心》(亲情卷)记录了家人温馨甜蜜、感人肺腑的一幕一幕,细细描绘亲情血浓于水的温馨质朴。《智慧的黑板》(恩师卷)娓娓道出师生间朴实无华的故事,勾起你对恩师的无限感恩之情。动人的故事,美好的文字,如幽谷中纤尘不染的百合,静静地绽放,清香四溢,回味无穷。

漫漫人生路,我们领略到的,也许远远不只书中的这些故事。可是,只要你拥有一颗感恩的心,便是打开了一扇通往幸福深处的大门。但愿这本书能成为那把打开大门的钥匙,陪你一起体会生命中每一个幸福的瞬间!

编者

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Part I
The Truth of Mother's Love
母爱的真谛



## The Baggy Yellow Shirt



## 黄色宽松衫

【导语】 曾经流传着这样一个故事:每一个母亲曾经都是一个漂亮的仙女,有一件漂亮的衣裳。当她们决定要做某个孩子的母亲、呵护某个生命的时候,就会褪去这件衣裳,变成一个普通的女子,平淡无奇一辈子。她会一直站在生命的最高点,为孩子默默地指引着人生的道路。大爱无言,母爱如水,这种爱,温柔而深沉!

# 

### 【词汇吧】

baggy adj. 松垂的,袋状的 trim vt. 修整,装饰 rummage v. 搜出,检查 give away 放弃,送掉 pregnant adj. 怀孕的 wardrobe n. 衣柜,衣橱 mindful n. 留心 patch vt. 修补 furniture n. 家具 uncrate vt. 打开……的包装 mattress n. 床垫 refinish vt. 修整表面

stain n. 污点,瑕疵 dawn v. 破晓,变得明白 embroider v. 刺绣 apostrophe n. 呼语 zig-zag v. 曲折前进 fray v. 磨损 seam n. 接缝 destitute adj. 穷困的 garage n. 车库 lumpy adj. 多块状物的 fragile adj. 表ې的 terminal adj. 末期的

The *baggy* yellow shirt had long sleeves, four extra-large pockets *trimmed* in black thread and snaps up the front. It was faded from years of wear, but still in decent shape. I found it in 1963 when I was home from college on Christmas break, *rummaging* through bags of clothes Mom intended to *give away*. "You're not taking that old thing, are you?" Mom said when she saw me packing the yellow shirt. "I wore that when I was *pregnant* with your brother in 1954!"

"It's just the thing to wear over my clothes during art class, Mom. Thanks!" I slipped it into my suitcase before she could object. The yellow shirt became a part of my college *wardrobe*. I loved it. After graduation, I wore the shirt the day I moved into my new apartment and on Saturday mornings when I cleaned.

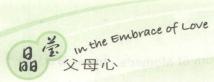
The next year, I married. When I became pregnant, I wore the yellow



那件黄色宽松衫的两只袖子长长的,前面有4个镶黑边的特大号口袋,上面缝有摁扣。衣服已经有些年头了,但还算没变形。我是从母亲准备扔掉的几袋衣服里翻出来的,那是1963年我上大学圣诞放假回家时的事情了。当时母亲看到我拎出这件衣服时说:"你不是打算要这件旧衣服吧?那可是我1954年怀着你弟弟时穿的!"

"上美术课时正好可以套在我的衣服外面呢,谢谢了,妈!"她还没来得及反对, 我就迅速将衣服收进行李箱了。于是,这件黄衬衫便在我的大学衣橱里占据了一个 角落。我喜欢这件衣服。毕业后,乔迁新居那天我穿着这件衣服,后来每周六早上打 扫卫生,我都穿着它。

第2年,我结婚了。我怀孕时挺着大肚子的那些日子,也穿着这件衣服。那时我和



shirt during big-belly days. I missed Mom and the rest of my family, since we were in Colorado and they were in Illinois. But that shirt helped. I smiled, remembering that Mother had worn it when she was pregnant, 15 years earlier.

That Christmas, *mindful* of the warm feelings the shirt had given me, I *patched* one elbow, wrapped it in holiday paper and sent it to Mom. When Mom wrote to thank me for her "real" gifts, she said the yellow shirt was lovely. She never mentioned it again.

The next year, my husband, daughter and I stopped at Mom and Dad's to pick up some *furniture*. Days later, when we *uncrated* the kitchen table, I noticed something yellow taped to its bottom. The shirt!

And so the pattern was set.

On our next visit home, I secretly placed the shirt under Mom and Dad's *mattress*. I don't know how long it took for her to find it, but almost two years passed before I discovered it under the base of our living-room floor lamp. The yellow shirt was just what I needed now while *refinishing* furniture. The walnut *stains* added character.

In 1975 my husband and I divorced. With my three children, I pre-

爱人住在科罗拉多州,而母亲和其他家人都住在伊利诺伊州,我非常想念他们。但一想到15年前母亲怀孕时也穿着这件黄衬衫,我就欣慰地笑了。

那年圣诞,我把衣服的一只袖子补了补,然后包在礼品纸中寄给了母亲,满载着它带给我的温暖。母亲回信中对这件"真正的"礼物表示了感谢,并说这件黄衬衫很漂亮。后来就再没提过这事了。

第二年,我和丈夫、女儿一起去父母家搬一些家具。几天后,当我们打开橱柜时, 发现最下面有个黄色的东西。那件黄衬衫!

于是游戏便这样开始了。

再一次回家时,我偷偷地把这件衣服放在了父母的褥子下面。也不知道隔了多久母亲发现的,但差不多两年后,我在自己家客厅的落地台灯底座又看见了它。正好我需要穿着它重新油漆家具。于是衬衫上便又多了一些胡桃大的油漆点。

1975年我和丈夫离婚了。我准备带着三个孩子回到伊利诺伊州。打包时,一种深

pared to move back to Illinois. As I packed, a deep depression overtook me. I wondered if I could make it on my own. I wondered if I would find a job. I paged through the Bible, looking for comfort. In Ephesians, I read, "So use every piece of God's armor to resist the enemy whenever he attacks, and when it is all over, you will be standing up."

I tried to picture myself wearing God's armor, but all I saw was the stained yellow shirt. Slowly, it *dawned* on me. Wasn't my mother's love a piece of God's armor? My courage was renewed.

Unpacking in our new home, I knew I had to get the shirt back to Mother. The next time I visited her, I tucked it in her bottom dresser drawer.

Meanwhile, I found a good job at a radio station. A year later I discovered the yellow shirt hidden in a rag bag in my cleaning closet. Something new had been added. *Embroidered* in bright green across the breast pocket were the words "I BELONG TO PAT."

Not to be outdone, I got out my own embroidery materials and added an *apostrophe* and seven more letters. Now the shirt proudly proclaimed, "I BELONG TO PAT'S MOTHER."

深的失落感向我袭来。我怀疑自己是否能够独立生活下去,也不知道能否找到工作。我随手翻着《圣经》,希望寻求一点安慰。在以弗所书中我读到了:"在敌人攻击时用上帝的每一片盔甲去抵挡,事过之后你将会站起来。"

我试着想象自己穿着上帝的盔甲,但我脑子里全是那件黄衬衫。慢慢地,我看到了曙光,母亲的爱难道不是上帝的盔甲吗?我的勇气重新树立起来了。

由于还没有收拾我们的新家,我不得不把衣服还给了母亲。后来去母亲家时,我 把衣服塞进了她最下面的衣柜里。

那时,我在电台找到了一份不错的工作。一年后,我在清洁柜的一个破袋子里发现了这件衣服。上面还增加了点新玩意儿。在胸前的口袋上用浅绿色的线绣着几个字。"我属于帕特。"

我不服输地也拿出自己的绣花针和线,在后面加上了几个字。现在衣服上赫赫 地亮着几个大字:"我属于帕特的妈妈。" But I didn't stop there. I *zig-zagged* all the *frayed seams*, then had a friend mail the shirt in a fancy box to Mom from Arlington, VA. We enclosed an official looking letter from "The Institute for the *Destitute*," announcing that she was the recipient of an award for good deeds. I would have given anything to see Mom's face when she opened the box. But, of course, she never mentioned it.

Two years later, in 1978, I remarried. The day of our wedding, Harold and I put our car in a friend's *garage* to avoid practical jokers. After the wedding, while my husband drove us to our honeymoon suite, I reached for a pillow in the car to rest my head. It felt *lumpy*. I unzipped the case and found, wrapped in wedding paper, the yellow shirt. Inside a pocket was a note: "Read John 14:27-29. I love you both, Mother."

That night I paged through the Bible in a hotel room and found the verses: "I am leaving you with a gift: peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give isn't *fragile* like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid. Remember what I told you: I am going away, but I will come back to you again. If you really love me, you will be very happy for

但这还不算完工,我缝补了所有脱线的地方,然后把衣服装在一个精美的盒子里,托一个朋友从弗吉尼亚的阿灵顿寄给我母亲。我们还随包装附带了一封看起来比较正式的信件,信中表示这是她因善行所得到的礼物,然后放进署名为"贫民救济机构"的信封里。我真想看看母亲收到盒子打开时的表情是怎样的。但她当然从未提起过这件事。

两年后,也就是 1978 年,我再婚了。婚礼那天,为了躲开那些爱开玩笑的人,我和哈罗德把车停在了一个朋友的修车场。婚礼后,丈夫开车带我们去蜜月套房的路上,我伸手去拿车里的一个靠枕,好靠一靠头休息一下。这个靠枕塞得鼓鼓的,我打开一看,发现了一个礼物,在婚礼的包装纸里卷着,就是那件衣服。包裹里还有一张便条:"请读约翰福音书 14 章 27 至 29 节。我爱你们。妈妈。"

那天晚上,我在旅馆翻开《圣经》找到了那段文字:"我给你们一个礼物:头脑与心灵的和平。我给你们的和平不像这世界上所谓的和平那样不堪一击。所以不要烦恼,不要害怕。记得我告诉你们的:我走了,但我会再来到你们面前。如果你们真的爱

me, for now I can go to the Father, who is greater than I am. I have told you these things before they happen so that when they do, you will believe in me."

The shirt was Mother's final gift. She had known for three months that she had *terminal* Lou Gehrig's disease. Mother died the following year at age 57.

I was tempted to send the yellow shirt with her to her grave. But I'm glad I didn't, because it is a vivid reminder of the love-filled game she and I played for 16 years. Besides, my older daughter is in college now, majoring in art. And every art student needs a baggy yellow shirt with big pockets.

我,你们会为我感到欣喜,因为现在我要回到天父那儿,它比我伟大。在这些事发生前我已经把这些事告诉过你们,所以当它们发生时,你们会信我。"

这件衣服成了母亲最后的礼物。3个月前,她就知道自己患有末期肌肉萎缩硬化症。第2年母亲去世了,享年57岁。

我本想把黄衬衫放入母亲的坟墓,但所幸的是我没有那么做。因为它让我时常回想起16年来,我和母亲这种充满爱的游戏。此外,我的大女儿现在正在读大学,艺术专业。每个艺术专业的学生都需要有一件带有大口袋的黄色宽松衫。



The greatest thing in family life is to take a hint when a hint is intended—and not to take a hint when a hint is not intended

家庭生活中最重要的不仅是成员之间的心领神会,还 需要心有灵犀一点通。

# Robby's Special Piano Recital

## 献给母亲的钢琴独奏

【导语】 人间最大的幸福就在于真情,有一种情感是圣洁且无须伪蒙的。没有悠扬的音乐,没有精美的食物,也没有摇曳的烛光,仅奉上一颗诚挚的心,一曲用心演奏的乐章,回想那些有悠倾听的衣晚,所有的努力都是为悠,我的母亲!

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### 【词汇吧】

supplement v. 补充
prodigy n. 天才,神童
endeavor n. 努力,尽力
rhythm n. 节奏,韵律
excel v. 优秀,胜过他人
dutifully adv. 忠实的
cringe vi. 阿谀,奉承
inborn adj. 天生的
recital n. 独奏会
gymnasium n. 健身房,体育馆
salvage vt. 抢救
hitch n. 猛拉,急推

egg-beater n. 打蛋器
nimbly adv. 敏捷地,机敏地
ivory n. 象牙
pianissimo n. 最弱音
fortissimo n. 最强音
allegro n. 急速
virtuoso n. 艺术品鉴赏家
chord n. 弦,和音
crescendo n. 声音渐增
puffy adj. 膨胀的
perseverance n. 坚定不移